

Message Text

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ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 EA-10 FRB-03 INR-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00
ICA-11 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01
AGRE-00 OMB-01 SS-15 FTC-01 JUSE-00 SEC-01 OIC-02
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APPROVED BY L/EB:MR. WILLIS
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TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 174144

E.O. 11652: GDS-3

TAGS: EGEN, EINV, ECOSOC, UN

SUBJECT: ECOSOC AGREEMENT ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS

REF: (A) STATE 168316
(B) STATE 168317
(C) STATE 168816
(D) GENEVA 10453

1. REFTELS (C) AND (D) ARE BEING REPEATED TO YOU FOR ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND.
2. AS REFTELS INDICATE, UK AND FRG APPEAR TO BE ONLY REMAINING INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES UNWILLING TO JOIN AN CONFIDENTIAL

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OECD CONSENSUS FOR A TREATY ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS, AND RECENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT UK IS RECONSIDERING ITS POSITION. THE FRG MAY BE LEFT AS THE ONLY MAJOR HOLDOUT. WE BELIEVE TIME IS APPROPRIATE--GIVEN SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS AT MOST RECENT ECOSOC WORKING GROUP SESSION--TO SCHEDULE A DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE, AND ARE PRESSING FOR AN ECOSOC DECISION AT ITS CURRENT SESSION TO SET A DATE IN 1979.

WE ALSO CONCUR IN NEED FOR PREPARATORY MEETINGS,
POSSIBLY EACH OF 2 WEEK'S LENGTH, NOTED AS FRG COUNTER-
PROPOSAL IN PARA 5 OF REFTEL (D). IN FACT, OUR POSITION

IS NOT FAR FROM FRG POSITION REPORTED IN PARA 5 REFTEL
(D). DISTINCTION IS THAT WE WANT PLENIPOTENTIARY
CONFERENCE SCHEDULED NOW, AND LOOK FOR LATE FALL 1979
DATE RATHER THAN SLIPPAGE TO 1980. WE BELIEVE FIRM
SCHEDULING NOW WILL ASSURE FRUITFUL PROGRESS AT PREPARA-
TORY MEETINGS IN WINTER 1979.

3. AS EMBASSY FINDS AN APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY, WE
REQUEST YOU TO URGE FRG TO SUPPORT US RESOLUTION AT
ECOSOC (REF (B) AND INSTRUCT FRG DELEGATION ACCORDINGLY.
CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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